

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SWF-02 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

CIEP-02 SP-03 STR-08 TRSE-00 LAB-06 SIL-01 SAM-01

OMB-01 SS-20 NSC-07 L-03 H-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15

AGR-20 DRC-01 IGA-02 /186 W
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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6806

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 2614

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PGOV, EAID, EEC

SUBJECT: APRIL 30 EC COUNCIL (DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION)

1. SUMMARY. THE EC COUNCIL (DEVELOPMENT MINISTERS) MET IN LUXEMBOURG APRIL 30. THEY AGREED TO CONTRIBUTE TO EFFORTS TO ASSIST THE LDCS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY RAW MATERIAL PRICE INCREASES ALTHOUGH THE AMOUNT AND FORM OF SUCH AID WAS NOT SPECIFIED. THEY ALSO REACHED AGREEMENT ON EXTENDING THE FOOD AID CONVENTION FOR ONE YEAR. THE MINISTERS APPROVED
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A SERIES OF RESOLUTIONS RELATED TO EC DEVELOPMENT POLICY.

THERE WAS A LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF AID TO NON-ASSOCIATED STATES WHICH WILL BE CONTINUED AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE MINISTERS TO BE SCHEDULED PRIOR TO JUNE 15. UK DEVELOPMENT MINISTER HART MADE HERE MAIDEN STATEMENT AS A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL. END SUMMARY.

2. UNGA ON RAW MATERIALS - AT THE APRIL 30 MEETING OF EC DEVELOPMENT MINISTERS, THE MINISTERS DISCUSSED THE UNGA SPECIAL SESSION AND THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT TO CONTRIBUTE TO EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE LDC'S MOST ATTECTED BY RECENT INCREASES IN RAW MATERIAL PRICES. NO FIGURE WAS MENTIONED, BUT THE MINISTERS AGREED TO MEET AGAIN BEFORE JUNE 15 (PROBABLY JUNE 13) TO DISCUSS THE MODIALITIES OF THE EC CONTRIBUTION. THERE IS A DIVISION AMONG THE MEMBER STATES REGARDING THE FORM OF THE EC CONTRIBUTION--I.E., WHETHER IT SHOULD BE LIMITED TO FINANCIAL AID OR SHOULD ALSO INCLUDE OTHER FORMS OF AID SUCH AS FERTILIZERS, PESTICIDES, FOOD AID, ETC.

3. FOOD AID CONVENTION - THE COUNCIL AGREED TO A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE FOOD AID CONVENTION. ONCE THE UK HAD LIFTED ITS RESEFVE ON THIS POINT, THE DANES WERE LEFT ISOLATED, AND AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH COPENHAGEN AGREED TO GO ALONG WITH THE OTHER MEMBER STATES.

4. LDC-RELATED RESOLUTIONS- THE COUNCIL GAVE DEFINITIVE APPROVAL TO FIVE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL MEETING IN NOVEMBER 1973 (EC BRUSSELS 6305). THESE CONCERN COMMODITY AGREEMENTS, GENERALIZED PREFERENCES, THE PROMOTION OF LDC EXPORTS, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO REGIONAL INTEGRATION AMONG LDCS, AND LDC DEPT PROBLEMS. IN ADDITION, THE MINISTERS APPROVED THREE ADDITIONAL RESOLUTIONSON THE CONDITIONS, GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION AND VOLUME OF AID. (THE AID VOLUME RESOLUTION HAS SO FAR BEEN APPROVED ON AN AD REFERENDUM BASIS ONLY.) THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO SUBMIT CONCRETE PROPOSALS FOR THE APPLICATION OF THE ABOVE RESOLUTIONS. THE MISSION WILL FORWARD THE FINAL TEXTS OF THESE RESOLUTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT WHEN AVAILABLE.

5. AID TO NON-ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES - THE MINISTERS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH THE QUESTION OF EC AID TO NON-ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES.
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NO DICISIONW WERE TAKEN AT THIS MEETING,BUT THE MINISTERS AGREED TO CONTINUE THEIR DISCUSSION WHEN THEY MEET IN JUNE. UK DEVELOPMENT MINISTER JUDIETH HART PLAYED A PROMINENT ROLE IN THIS DISCUSSION AND SUGGESTED THAT A FIFTY-FIFTY AID SPLIT BETWEEN ASSOCIATED AND NON-ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE. THE BELGIANS AND PARTICULARLY THE FRENCH TOOK EXCEPTION TO THIS BREAKDOWN,EMPHASIZING LEGAL COMMITMENTS ALREADY MADE TO THE ASSOCIATED AND ASSOCIABLE STATES. THE ITALIANS

ALSO REMINDED THE OTHER MEMBER STATES OF THE DEVELOPMENT NEEDS
WITHIN CERTAIN AREAS OF THE COMMUNITY.

6. UK STATEMENT ON DEVELOPMENT POLICY - DURING A GENERAL DIS-
CUSSION OF EC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY, UK MINISTER
HART MADE A LENGTHY STATEMENT WHICH INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING
POINTS:

A. THE NEED FOR A MORE BALANCED DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNITY AID
BETWEEN ASSOCIATED AND NON-ASSOCIATED STATES. THIS SHOULD NOT BE
AT THE EXPENSE OF THE ASSOCIATED AND ASSOCIABLE COUNTRIES BUT
AID TO THESE COUNTRIES SHOULD BE BASED ON THE PRINCIPLE OF NEED
AND SUPPLEMENTED BY AID TO OTHER HIGHLY POPULATED AND VERY POOR
LDCS NOT INCLUDED IN THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS.

B. THE NEED--IN THE CONTEXT OF A COHERENT EC AID POLICY--FOR AN
OUTLINE OF VARIOUS AID COMMITMENTS THAT THE COMMUNITY MIGHT
UNDERTAKE OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. MRS. HART SUGGESTED THAT THE
COMMISSION BE ASKED TO DRAW UP SUCH AN AID FRAMEWORK IN TIME
TO ALLOW FOR A DISCUSSION AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE DEVELOPMENT
MINISTERS.

C. THE UK GOVERNMENT IS NOW PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE OFFICIAL
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE TARGET OF 0.7 PERCENT OF GNP. MRS. HART
DID NOT INDICATE A DATE FOR REACHING THIS TARGET.

7. THE MISSION WILL PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS ON THE RESULTS OF
THE COUNCIL MEETING ONCE BRUSSELS-BASED PARTICIPANTS HAVE RETURNED
FROM THE MAY 1 HOLIDAY. MEYERSON

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